

Appl. No. 09/689,048
Response date January 27, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October 27, 2003

Listing of Claims

1. (previously presented) A composite nonwoven web comprising:
a nonwoven web having a machine-direction and a cross-direction and comprising a first segment and a second segment wherein said first segment and second segment extend adjacent one another in said machine direction wherein said first segment and said second segment abut one another;
said first segment comprising first continuous filaments and wherein said first continuous filaments comprise an elastomer;
said second segment comprising second continuous filaments and wherein the second continuous filaments differ from the first continuous filaments in elasticity; and
wherein said first continuous filaments proximate said second segment and said second continuous filaments proximate said first segment are in a confluent relationship with one another and form a unitary nonwoven web.
2. (original) The composite nonwoven web of claim 1 wherein said second continuous filaments comprise an inelastic polymer.
3. (original) The composite nonwoven web of claim 2 wherein the area of said first segment comprises between about 75% and about 25% of the total area of the composite nonwoven web.
4. (original) The composite nonwoven web of claim 2 wherein said second continuous filaments comprise an olefin polymer.
5. (original) The composite nonwoven web of claim 4 wherein said first continuous filaments comprise an elastic olefin polymer.
6. (original) The composite nonwoven web of claim 4 wherein said first continuous filaments comprise an elastomer selected from the group consisting of polyesters, polyurethanes, polystyrenes and polyolefins.

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7. (original) The composite nonwoven web of claim 4 wherein said first continuous filaments comprise a blend of a polyolefin and a block copolymer having a styrenic moiety blocks and elastomeric polymer mid-blocks.
8. (original) The composite nonwoven web of claim 1 wherein said nonwoven web is selected from the group consisting of spunbond and meltblown fiber webs.
9. (original) The composite nonwoven web of claim 8 further comprising a third region adjacent said first region, said third region comprises third continuous filaments the same as the second continuous filaments and wherein said first continuous filaments proximate said third region and said third continuous filaments proximate said first region are in a confluent relationship with one another and form a unitary composite nonwoven web.
10. (original) The composite nonwoven web of claim 9 wherein said first continuous filaments comprise a first olefin polymer and said second and third continuous filaments comprise a second olefin polymer and wherein said first olefin polymer has a higher modulus of elasticity than said second olefin polymer.
11. (withdrawn) A composite nonwoven web comprising:
 - a nonwoven web having a machine-direction and a cross-direction and comprising a first segment and a second segment wherein said first and second segments extend adjacent one another in said machine direction;
 - said first segments comprising first continuous filaments and wherein said first continuous filaments are hydrophobic;
 - said second segments comprising second continuous filaments and wherein the second continuous filaments are hydrophilic; and
 - wherein said first continuous filaments proximate said second region and said second continuous filaments proximate said first region are in a confluent relationship with one another and form a unitary nonwoven web.
12. (withdrawn) The composite nonwoven web of claim 11 wherein said second continuous filaments contain a wetting agent.

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13. (withdrawn) The composite nonwoven web of claim 12 further comprising a third region and wherein said third region is adjacent said second region, said third region comprises third continuous hydrophobic filaments and wherein said second continuous filaments proximate said third region and said third continuous filaments proximate said second region are in a confluent relationship with one another and form a unitary composite nonwoven web.

14. (withdrawn) The composite nonwoven web of claim 13 wherein said second continuous filaments comprise a propylene polymer and an ethoxylated compound and further wherein said first and third continuous filaments consist essentially of a propylene polymer.

15. (withdrawn) The composite nonwoven web of Claim 11 wherein the second region is more porous than said first region.

16. (previously presented) The composite nonwoven web of claim 1 wherein the first continuous filaments comprise a first polymer composition and the second continuous filaments comprise a second polymer composition that is a different polymer composition from the first polymer composition.

17. (previously presented) The composite nonwoven web of claim 1 wherein the first segment and the second segment are coplanar.

18. (previously presented) A composite nonwoven web comprising:
a nonwoven web having a machine-direction and a cross-direction and comprising a first segment and a second segment wherein said first segment and second segment extend adjacent one another and abut one another;
said first segment comprising first continuous filaments;
said second segment comprising second continuous filaments wherein the second continuous filaments differ from the first continuous filaments in cross-sectional shape, cross-sectional configuration, crimp level, hydrophobicity, addition or level of internal treatments or additives, tensile strength or elasticity; and

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wherein said first continuous filaments proximate said second segment and said second continuous filaments proximate said first segment are in a confluent relationship with one another and form a unitary nonwoven web.

19. (previously presented) The composite nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein filaments are not exposed to a heat source to shrink the filaments.

20. (previously presented) The composite nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the first segment and the second segment are coplanar.

21. (withdrawn) The composite nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the second continuous filaments differ from the first continuous filaments in cross-sectional shape.

22. (withdrawn) The composite nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the second continuous filaments differ from the first continuous filaments in cross-sectional configuration.

23. (withdrawn) The composite nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the second continuous filaments differ from the first continuous filaments in crimp level.

24. (withdrawn) The composite nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the second continuous filaments differ from the first continuous filaments in hydrophobicity,

25. (withdrawn) The composite nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the second continuous filaments differ from the first continuous filaments in addition or level of internal treatments or additives.

26. (withdrawn) The composite nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the second continuous filaments differ from the first continuous filaments in tensile strength.

27. (previously presented) The composite nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the second continuous filaments differ from the first continuous filaments in elasticity.